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PATENT APPLICATION
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. FERT-P002

**IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: LAURENT, Pierre L.	Examiner: BAIRD, Edward J.
Application No. 10/810,306	Group No. 3695
Filed: 3/25/2004	Confirmation No. 7992
Title: COMPUTER-IMPLEMENTED DISPLA TO FACILITATE TRADING IN MULTI-MODAL FREIGHT SHIPMENT DERIVATIVES	

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit that each of the independent claims 1, 16, and 31 are novel, nonobvious, and patentable over the cited arts, alone or in combination. The cited arts mentioned by Examiner include at least Nafeh et al. (US 2002/0069155), Bjerre et al. (US 2002/0123911), Bergkvist ("The value of time and forecasting of flows in freight transportation" presented at the 41st ERSa congress in Zagreb 2001), Bjerre et al. (US 2005/0091089), Bjerre et al. (US 2005/0091091), Bjerre et al. (US 2005/0091090), Bjerre et al. (US 2002/0178023), Chittenden et al. (US 2004/0015409), Cowles (US 7,333,942), Kwan (US 6,990,467), Le et al. (US 2003/0069831), Riggs et al. (US 2005/0091100), Riggs et al. (US 2008/0040144), Riggs et al. (US 2006/0053027), Williams et al. (US 2002/0032573), Metcalfe et al. (US 2002/0138290), Scheer (US 2002/0138358), Talluri (US 6263315), Haigh ("Cointegration, unbiased expectations, and forecasting in the BIFFEX freight futures market", The Journal of Futures Markes, Hoboken: Jul 2000, Vol. 20, Iss. 6, page 545), Matsuzaki et al. (US 2003/015661), Lauring et al. (US 2004/0148217), Dietrich et al. (US 6032,121), Balzola (Balancing Container Inventories for Ocean Carriers", MIT Libraries May 28, 1999), Haigh ("Hedging Foreign Currency, Freight, and Commodity Futures Portfolios—A note", The Journal of Futures Markets, Hoboken: Dec 2002, Vol. 22, Iss. 12; pg. 1205), New Zealand Manufacturer ("Freight

futures rounded up”, New Zealand Manufacturer, Wellington, Mar 1996, page 14). Wilson (“Air freight: Poised for expansion,” Transportation & Distribution, Cleveland, Aug. 1997, Vol. 38, Iss. 8: pg. 43, 5 pgs.), Foster (“Air freight weathers the storm,” Logistics Management and Distribution Report, Radnor, May 1999, Vol. 38, Iss. 5, pg. 55), Hunt et al (US 5,724,524), Bains et al. (US 6625584), Lancaster et al. (US 2002/0133456), Lerner (US 2002/0120555), Schuricht et al. (US 5040132), and Vergottis (“An Econometric model of the world shipping markets,” The City University, London, United Kingdom, 1988, 448 pages; AAT DX88207).

Furthermore, the dependent claims 2-15, 17-30 and 32-28 that depend from one of the independent claims 1, 16, and 31 are also novel, nonobvious, and patentable not only due to their recitation of independently patentable features but also due to their dependence from the allowed independent claims 1, 16, and 31.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for a thorough examination and the allowance of claims 1-38.

Also, the replacement drawings have been submitted on March 25, 2010 and have been considered by the Examiner on April 14, 2010.

Further, a terminal disclaimer as requested by the Examiner was filed on March 24, 2010 and approved on March 25, 2010.

If any petition is required to facilitate the entry of this communication, please consider this communication a petition therefore as well. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees beyond the amount enclosed which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2284 (Order No. FFRT-P002).

Respectfully submitted,

/Joseph A. Nguyen/

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